

TSCA/iPCB Workgroup Meeting Summary January 8, 2020

TSCA Members in Attendance:

Joel Breems (Avista)
David Darling (ACA)
Jeff Donovan (City of Spokane)
Doug Krapas (Inland Empire Paper Co.)
Doug McClanahan (WA DOT)
Cheryl Niemi (Ecology)
Michael Ober (TDSC)
Mike Peterson (The Lands Council)
Elsa Pond (WA DOT)
Karl Rains (Ecology)
Lisa Dally Wilson (Dally Environmental)

TSCA Members not in Attendance:

Tom Agnew (Liberty Lake, LLSWD)
Adriane Borgias (Ecology)
Ben Carleton (Inland Empire Paper Co.)
Lucy Edmondson (EPA)
Ben Floyd (White Bluffs Consulting)
Doug Greenlund (City of Spokane)
Lauren Heine (NW Green Chemistry) Anna
Montgomery (NWGC)
Michelle Mullin (EPA)
Amelia Nestler (NGC)
Cadie Olson (City of Spokane)
Amanda Parrish (the Lands Council)
Jay West (American Chemistry Council)
Tammie Williams (WA DOT)

Agenda Items Discussed:

General:

1. Cheryl Niemi, Hazardous Waste and Toxics Reduction Program, Department of Ecology has been added to the TSCA Workgroup team ([[HYPERLINK "mailto:cheryl.niemi@ecy.wa.gov"](mailto:cheryl.niemi@ecy.wa.gov)]) and provided her background with the water quality division of Ecology. Her ongoing work as the Senior Reduction Planner within Ecology's Toxic Reduction Program will be focused on the Safer Products for WA Act ([Chapter 70.365 RCW](#)) and associated chemical Action Plans. The work of the TSCA/iPCB workgroup and the SRRTTF is congruent with Cheryl's ongoing responsibilities and should be of value in her endeavors. We welcome Cheryl as a valued member of this workgroup.
2. David Darling confirmed that Raleigh Davis is no longer with the American Coatings Association and therefore she will be removed from the roster. In the interim, David Darling will continue to represent the ACA until further notice.
3. Elsa reported that Doug McClanahan will also be attending TSCA Workgroup meetings when available, but has not been receiving the TSCA announcements. Doug K. will see that he is added to the distribution list. **Action Doug K**
4. In addition to the agenda based on the prior meeting minutes, Doug K. suggested a review of prior projects that were tabled for consideration of potential 2020 projects.

1. Road Paint Whitepaper:

- a. The SRRTTF at the December meeting approved NWGC's proposal (\$2,460) to develop a "technical case study" whitepaper building on the work of journalist Sonja Elmquist.

- b. NWGC was in not in attendance of this TSCA/iPCB Workgroup meeting to provide an update on their progress. Doug K. followed up with Anna for an update. NWGC intends to conduct interviews in the next couple weeks and will be drafting the whitepaper shortly thereafter with a draft likely in February for TSCA Workgroup member review. NWGC expects about 2 months to complete the work, depending upon SRRTTF review and approval process. NWGC is still awaiting contract information from ACE SRRTTF, but this is not holding up work. **Action NWGC & ACE**
 - c. Doug K. had suggested that David Darling from ACA, Elsa Pond from DOT and someone from DES be interviewed in addition to himself, as all were key players.
 - d. The group reviewed a prior action item related to the road paint project effort that was the follow-up evaluation of the specification change with municipalities using these “non-diarylide” paints:
 - i. David Darling suggested evaluating impacts from the supply side due to the China pigment supply concerns (plant explosion), available manufacturers/products, and any DES related purchasing issues.
 - ii. Elsa believes that it is still too premature as DOT and DES are still evaluating the supply chain concerns, availability of manufacturers/products, and effectiveness of the allowance in the purchasing process.
 - iii. Doug M. reported that the DOT has been using these products for some time and have 5 to 10 pigments to choose from. They have not experienced any problems with drying time, durability and other performance related parameters.
 - iv. Based on the above, the group decided to table this action and bring up for reconsideration in 2021.
2. **OECD** (Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development):
- a. The SRRTTF approved sponsorship of OECD application at the December meeting. Mike P. expressed a concern with the risk assessment of lower level congeners discussed in the application. Doug K. stated that the SRRTTF would be permitted additional information if the case study is accepted by OECD and that would be the appropriate time for the SRRTTF to suggest any revisions.
 - b. Doug K. and Lauren Heine are scheduled to present the case study to the OECD at a workshop in Paris, France on Monday, February 3. The presentation is due to OECD no later than Friday, January 24. A draft of the presentation will be provided for SRRTTF approval at the phone-con meeting on January 22. **Action Doug K & NWGC**
3. **Update on PCB EPA Method 1668 study of TiO₂:** Michael Ober provided an update on the status of the study.
- a. “Environmental Standards Inc.” ([[HYPERLINK "https://www.envstd.com/"](https://www.envstd.com/)]), selected as the 3rd party to develop the QAPP and perform data analysis for the TDSC is in the process of finalizing the QAPP. Michael expects a draft of the QAPP to be completed in February of 2020 for TDSC membership review and approval. Due to anti-trust concerns

this is going to be a back and forth process with no firm timeline for completion. **Action M. Ober**

b. Historical Notes for this Project.

- i. They would like to begin sampling in the 1st quarter of 2020, so the SRRTTF will need to expedite approval.
- ii. As previously discussed, there were now only be three (3) categories of TiO₂ samples based on highest volumes of use, greatest nexus to the Spokane River and produced by Chloride process:
 1. Paints and Coatings
 2. Plastics
 3. Paper and Paperboard Packaging

4. **PCB's in products data base updates:**

- a. Mike P. contacted Lisa Rodenburg after the holidays regarding Rutgers hosting the data base. Lisa said to be patient as she is still waiting to hear back from the Rutgers decision makers. **Action Mike P.**
- b. Cheryl stated that she uses the CompTox data base to evaluate toxics in products.
- c. The group has expressed some concerns over the user friendliness of the CompTox data base and its suitability for our intended use.
- d. Both EPA and Ecology are sponsoring workshops in February regarding use of the CompTox data base.

5. **EPA research opportunities:**

a. iPCB Key words for Scholarly Articles:

- i. EPA was not in attendance for this meeting to provide an update.
- ii. Doug K. followed up with both Lucy E. and Michelle M. via phone calls. EPA is resource limited which may limit EPA's participation in the TSCA workgroup and implementation of projects. This particular project has been assigned a lower priority due to other projects including site clean-ups and iPCB product testing (see below Children's Product Testing). **Action EPA (can we get a compilation of results to date?)**

b. Children's Product Testing:

- i. EPA recently completed a pilot project testing children's products using Method 1668.
- ii. EPA found a difference between the results of their study of similar products to that conducted by Ecology, and even variability amongst the same products (i.e.: yellow glitter foam sheets).
- iii. PCB-11 was the most prevalent congener detected.
- iv. EPA is using a different lab (ORD) and extraction methods than that used by Ecology.

- v. Michelle was not sure what if any blank correction methods were being used, but will find out for our next meeting. **Action Michelle M. (also, when is report expected?)**
- c. **NTP risk study of various Congeners and Aroclors**: NTP is evaluating toxicity of PCB congeners 11, 95, 126, 153 and Aroclors 1016 and 1254. **Action EPA Follow-up**
 - i. David Darling suggested a project to evaluate PCB-11 in comparison to other congeners. **Action D. Darling to develop**

6. **iPCB Workshop:**

- a. NWGC was not in attendance to provide an update, so discussion ensued regarding the ongoing NWGC webinar efforts under the Bullitt Foundation grant.
- b. The NWGC advocacy groups were reported to be poorly attended, so TSCA Workgroup members were encouraged to join one of the groups to carry on the work of the iPCB workshop
- c. David Darling stated that he is still not receiving the announcements for these meetings. Doug K. will forward the NWGC 12/17 announcement to the TSCA Workgroup Members. **Action Doug K.**
- d. The following TSCA Workgroup members present for this meeting were attending the following
 - i. Government/Regulatory – Elsa, Karl & Cheryl
 - ii. Technical Considerations – Jeff
 - iii. Policy/Advocacy – Doug (Mike P. stated he will join this group **Action Mike P.**)
- e. The benefit of consolidating into one group versus three was discussed to improve attendance, minimize the number of meetings and diversify the brainstorming talent. After much debate, it was agreed that separate groups addressing each of these very diverse topics was more prudent at this time.
- f. Also suggestions to better define the purpose, goals and outcomes of each NWGC workgroup would be beneficial to provide better definition and guidance.
- g. There has been some confusion as to the difference between the Government/Regulatory and Policy/Advocacy workgroups. Doug K. explained that the Policy/Advocacy was not government related policy, but Corporate policy, so the suggestion was made to define as Corporate policy/Advocacy to better define.
- h. Doug K. will follow up with Anna M. to discuss the above concerns/suggestions. **Action Doug K.**
- i. With the Bullitt Foundation funding running out at the end of the 1st quarter, robust discussion and strategic planning is needed to carry on the energy created by the iPCB workshop. **Action Item for future discussion**
- j. Historical Notes for this Project:
- k. As a follow-up to the workshop, NWGC is conducting webinars to further develop the three main categories of interest:

- i. Government/Regulatory – two meetings held in November with good attendance.
 - ii. Technical Considerations – one meeting in November with good attendance
 - iii. Policy/Advocacy – one meeting in November with poor attendance
- l. NWGC will send out the presentations and notes by the end of the week.
- m. Review of key points from the work groups:
 - i. A lot of questions remain around key issues such as toxicity of iPCBs.
 - ii. A lot of emphasis on Brands impacting the decision makers.
 - iii. The Sustainable Packaging Coalition (SPC) was absent from our iPCB workshop due to a conflicting conference, but is having another conference in late March in Austin, TX which may serve as a good opportunity to present on the iPCB concern.
 - iv. SPC members are not aware of the iPCB concern.
 - v. Questions that Brands should be asking of suppliers and policies that they could implement.
- n. Elsa missed the 2nd Government/Regulatory meeting as she never received the email announcement.
- o. Karl also confirmed that he did not receive the invite
- p. Karl questioned the funding sources of NWGC's continuing work and its applicability to SRRTTF guidelines for reporting. Anna confirmed that funding did not include SRRTTF funds for this ongoing work, and was using Bullitt foundation funding that will continue through March of 2020. The Bullitt foundation will be closing its doors thereafter, so there may be some Ecology PPG funding to continue this work.
- q. We need to encourage SRRTTF members to participate in this ongoing NWGC work to further advance the efforts from the iPCB workshop.

7. Other:

- a. Elsa Pond inquired if anyone knew about PCBs in Malachite Green dye. David Darling suggested contacting David Wawer of the Color Pigment Manufacturer's Association (CPMA)